



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

24 August 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 21, 2006

### Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Sarasota to northern Collier County. Patchy high impacts are possible for Sarasota and Charlotte Counties today through Saturday, with patchy low impacts possible Saturday night through Sunday. Patchy low impacts are possible for Lee County, with patchy moderate impacts possible in northern Collier County today through Saturday. Patchy very low impacts are possible in both Lee and northern Collier Counties Saturday night through Sunday.

### Analysis

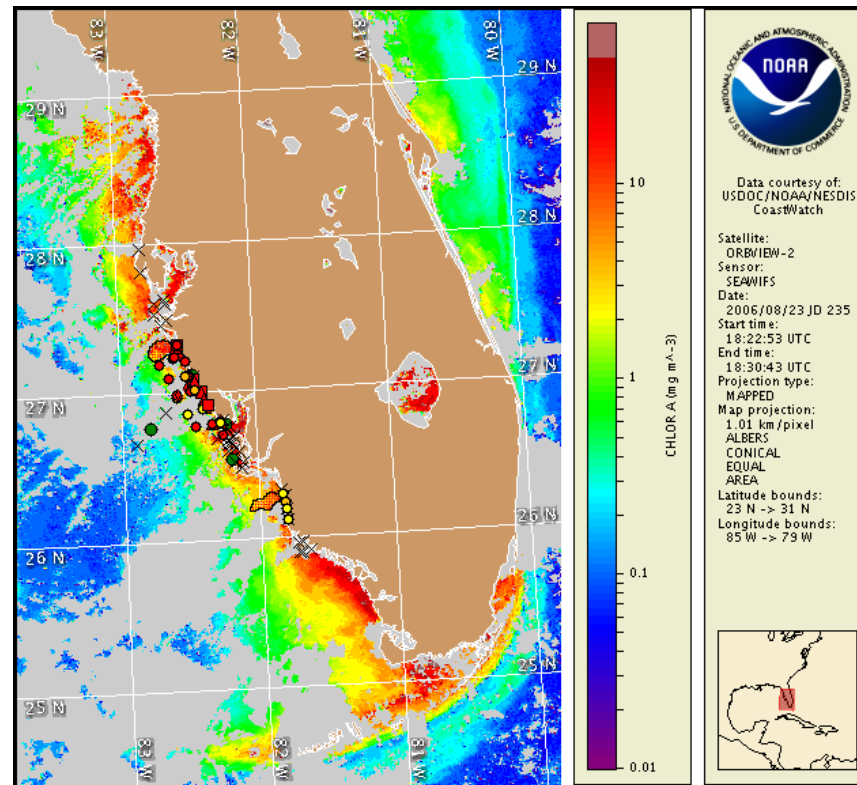
The bloom persists from Sarasota County to northern Collier County. Recent sampling results indicate that the bloom has intensified in Collier County, with a medium concentration at Naples Pier (Dept. of Health; 8/21). The bloom remains at low concentrations for the remainder of Lee and Collier County. High concentrations have been found in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties at Venice Pier, Cortez Bridge, and Anna Maria Island (FWRI; 8/22). Background levels of *K. brevis* were found in Pinellas County at Skyway Fishing Pier in addition to high levels of non-harmful algae south of Tampa Bay between Sarasota and Lee County (FWRI; 8/21). Imagery continues to indicate that chlorophyll concentrations remain high offshore of southwest Florida ( $>15\mu\text{g/L}$ ). Chlorophyll levels range from 5-10  $\mu\text{g/L}$  offshore of Collier County at 26°19'50"N, 81° 52' 5"W.

Onshore winds Thursday through Saturday will likely increase impacts along the coast. Onshore winds may slow northern transport of bloom.

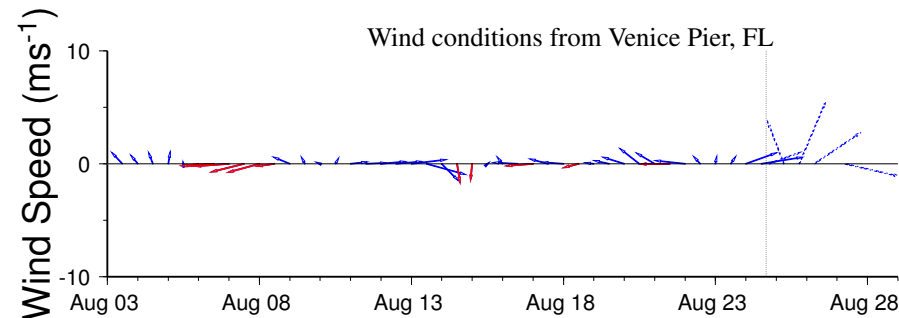
~Keller, Allen

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

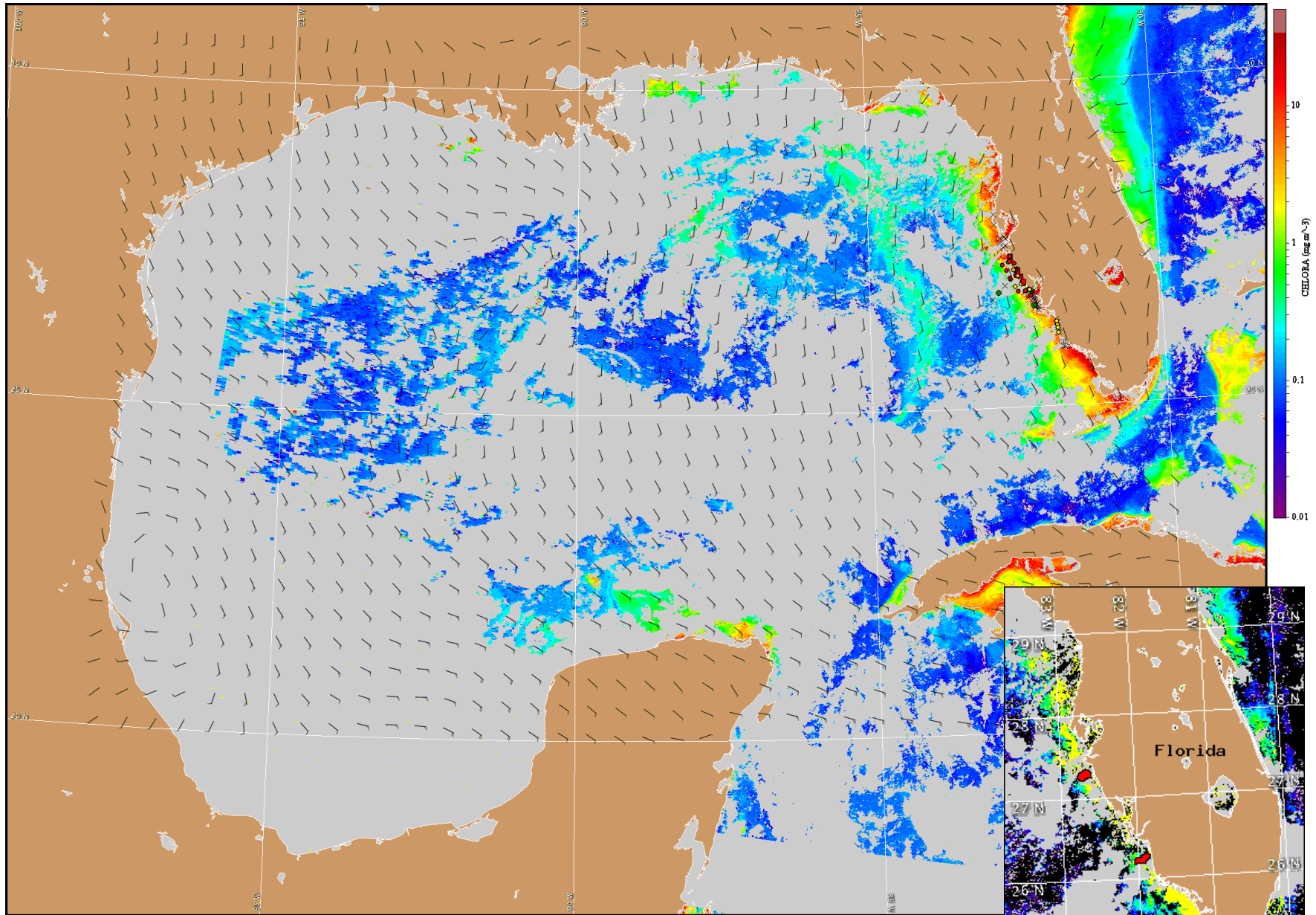


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 14-17 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Westerly winds this afternoon followed by southerly winds tonight (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Westerly winds on Friday (5 knots; 3m/s). Northwestern winds on Saturday, followed by southeasterly winds on Saturday night (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s) and easterly winds on Sunday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 25, 2006 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from August 14-17 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL

